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JULY 86
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ALL-STAR SQUADRON

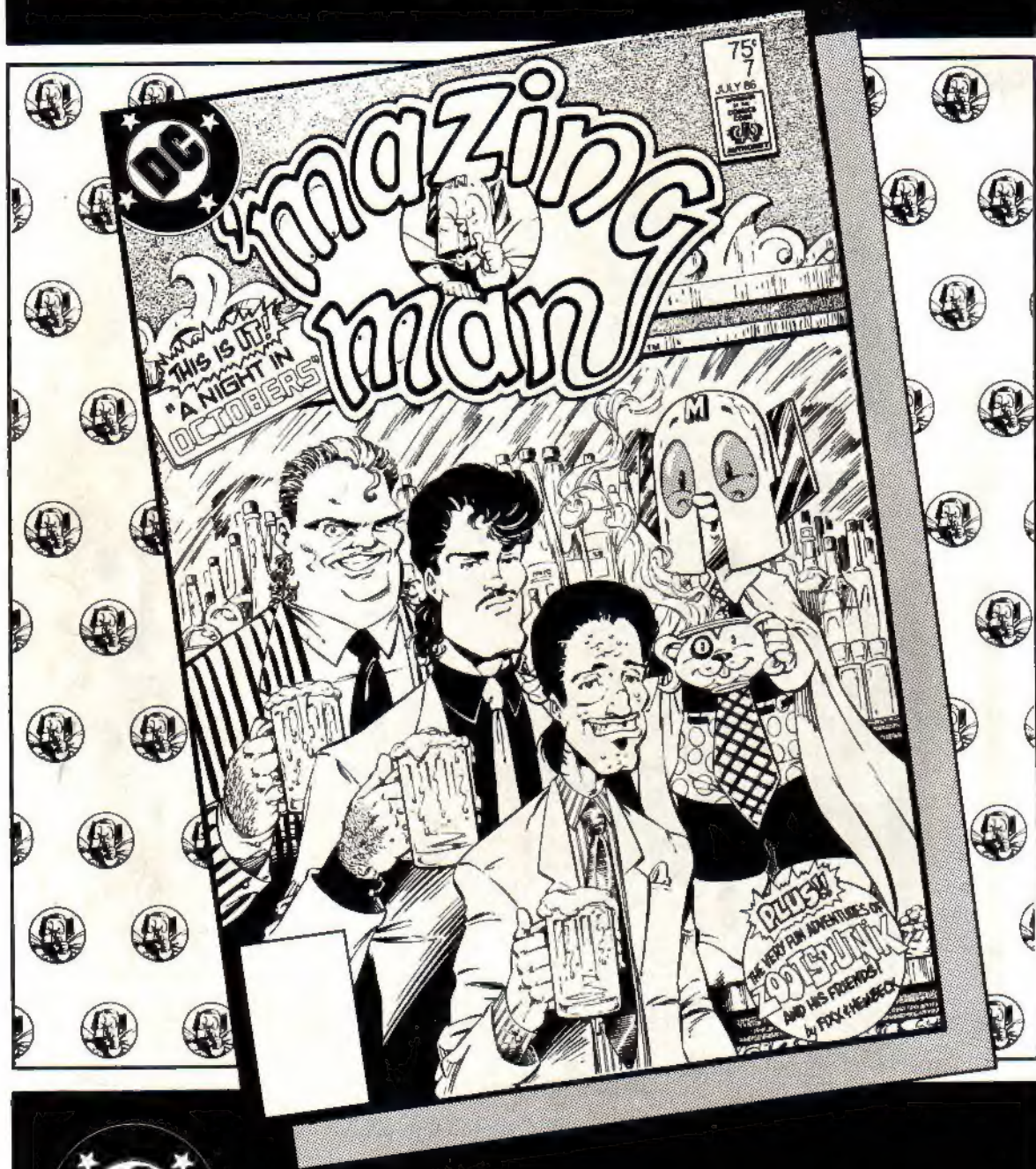
EXTRA! THE SPECTRE IN HYPERSPACE!



by ROY THOMAS, ARVELL JONES & RON HARRIS



In this crazy world we all
need a friend like...



DC. We've made comics fun again.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 1942

BEHIND CRIMSON STORMCLOUDS, A DARK FIGURE BREAKS THE TROUBLED WATERS OF LONG ISLAND SOUND.

POWERFUL ARMS CHURN A PATH TO SHORE AS IF THE PASSAGE BETWEEN QUEENS AND THE BRONX WERE A PLACID LAKE.

POWERFUL LEGS RESIST THE SURF'S RELENTLESS PULL AS THOUGH IT WERE BUT A CHILD'S GENTLE TUG.

A DETERMINED STRIDE EATS UP DISTANCE LIKE A SPONGE...

...UNTIL THE NIGHT'S DESTINATION IS SIGHTED, AT THE COMMON FOUNTAINHEAD OF SKYBORNE STREAKS OF LIGHT.

AND A TEN-FOOT ELECTRIFIED FENCE IS HURDLED, WITH LITTLE APPARENT EFFORT.

BUT IF STEALTH BE THE SILENT STRANGERS' INTENT...

...HE SHOULD HAVE LOOKED DOWN, AS WELL AS UP.

TOO CLOSE NOW, HE DOES NOT SEE THE LIGHTS GO OFF WITHIN THE WHITE SPHERE JUST AHEAD...

-- HE CERTAINLY SEES THEM COME ON AGAIN!

WHAT THE DEVIL--?

BUT, WHEN HE STEPS CAUTIOUSLY INSIDE--

ALL RIGHT, FELLA-- SUPPOSE YOU TELL US WHAT YOU'RE--MUN?

DON'T RECOGNIZE THE FACE-- BUT I'VE SEEN THAT OUTFIT IN NEWS PHOTOS!

UNLESS WE ALL MISS OUR COLLECTIVE GUESS-- IT'S AQUAMAN!

HEY, WHAT GIVES WITH YOU GUYS, ANYWAY?

YOU ACT LIKE I HAVEN'T GOT AN INVITE TO THIS CLAMBAKE!

OUT OF THE ASHES... MEKANIQUE!

ROY THOMAS WRITER	ARVELL JONES PENCILLER (PP 1-16)	COLLETTA & DEZUNIGA INKER (PP 1-16)
DANN THOMAS CO-PLOTTER	CARL GAFFORD COLORIST	DAVID CODY WESS LETTERER



UNLESS WE
ALL MISS OUR
COLLECTIVE
GUESS--IT'S
AQUAMAN!

BUT HOW CAN WE
BE SURE IT'S HIM--
WHEN NOBODY HERE'S
EVER SO MUCH AS
EYEBALLED HIM
BEFORE?

HEY, WHAT
GIVES WITH
YOU GUYS,
ANYWAY?

YOU ACT
LIKE I HAVEN'T
GOT AN INVITE
TO THIS
CLAMBAKE!

"...This is not even the
beginning of the end..."
--Winston Churchill,
cont.



SORRY, AQUAMAN. FAR AS WE KNEW, EVERYBODY WE EXPECTED TO SHOW UP WAS PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR--

--SO WHEN SOMEBODY TRIGGERED OUR ELECTRIC EYE, WE FIGURED IT WAS ONE OF THE BAD GUYS, HERE TO GIVE US A TUSSELE.

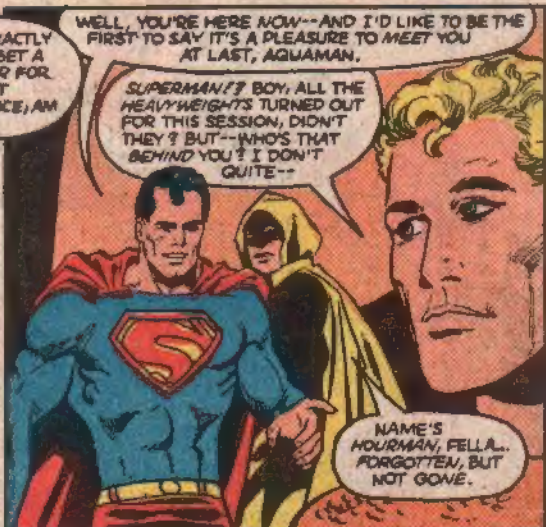
GREAT! ONLY, LIKE I SAID, I WAS INVITED--SO WHY DIDN'T ANYBODY FIGURE IT MIGHT BE ME TRIPPED YOUR ALARM?

SURE. JUST LIKE YOU SWAM ASHORE FOR THE PAST FOUR MONTHS, RIGHT?



Hmm... YEAH, I GUESS I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, FLASH.

I'M NOT EXACTLY GOING TO GET A GOLD STAR FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE, AM I?



WELL, YOU'RE HERE NOW--AND I'D LIKE TO BE THE FIRST TO SAY IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU AT LAST, AQUAMAN.

SUPERMAN'S BOY, ALL THE HEAVYWEIGHTS TURNED OUT FOR THIS SESSION, DIDN'T THEY? BUT--WHO'S THAT BEHIND YOU? I DON'T QUITE--

NAME'S HOURMAN, FELLA... FORGOTTEN, BUT NOT GONE.



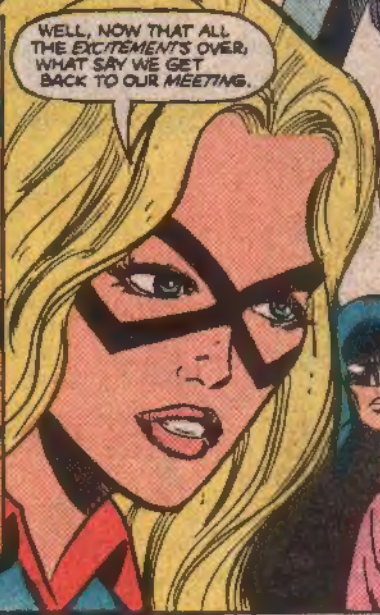
WHAT'S WITH YOU, QUICK? YOU SEEM SORT-OF DISTRACTED.

I WAS JUST THINKING HOW, AS JOHNNY CHAMBERS, I'D LIKE TO GET A MUG-SHOT OF THIS WHOLE BUNCH!



I MEAN, JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY'S HERE WHO COULD BE HERE--EXCEPT FOR LITTLE BOY BLUE AND THE BLUE BOYS.

AND THEY'D PROBABLY HAVE MADE IT, BUT THEY'RE TOO BUSY BUSTING UP A MILK-MONEY GANG OR SOMETHING.



WELL, NOW THAT ALL THE EXCITEMENT'S OVER, WHAT SAY WE GET BACK TO OUR MEETING.



GREAT, LIBERTY BELLE. ROBIN AND I WERE AWFULLY BUSY OVER IN GOTHAM CITY...

WE'RE ALL BUSY, BATMAN.

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

BONK!



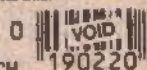
Bonkers! Fruit Candy bonks you out of this world with a Robot-Watch.

The Bonkers! Robot-Watch is two kinds of space-age fun. On your wrist, it's a digital watch. Off the strap, it transforms into a robot. You can get it from Bonkers!—the fruit candy with the superfruity middle. And Bonkers! comes in four out-of-this-world flavors—strawberry, grape, orange and watermelon.



Get a **Bonkers!** Robot-Watch for \$3.95
and 3 **Bonkers!** labels.

Please send me Bonkers! Robot-Watch, available from Bonkers! Fruit Candy. The watch shows the time and date and is made of durable blue plastic with a black band. Here's \$3.95 and the UPC symbol from 3 Super Fruity Bonkers! labels. That's the part with the lines and numbers that looks like this:



Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Age _____

Send to:
BONKERS! ROBOT WATCH
P.O. Box 5988
Wyoming, MN 55092

All orders must be received by December 31, 1988.
Void where taxed or prohibited. Offer good only in U.S.
Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.
The watch comes with a 1 year limited warranty.

Bob Geldolf proved an individual's efforts to end hunger in Ethiopia could make a difference.

We agree.



Front cover: Neal Adams and Dick Giordano

Back cover: Bill Sienkiewicz

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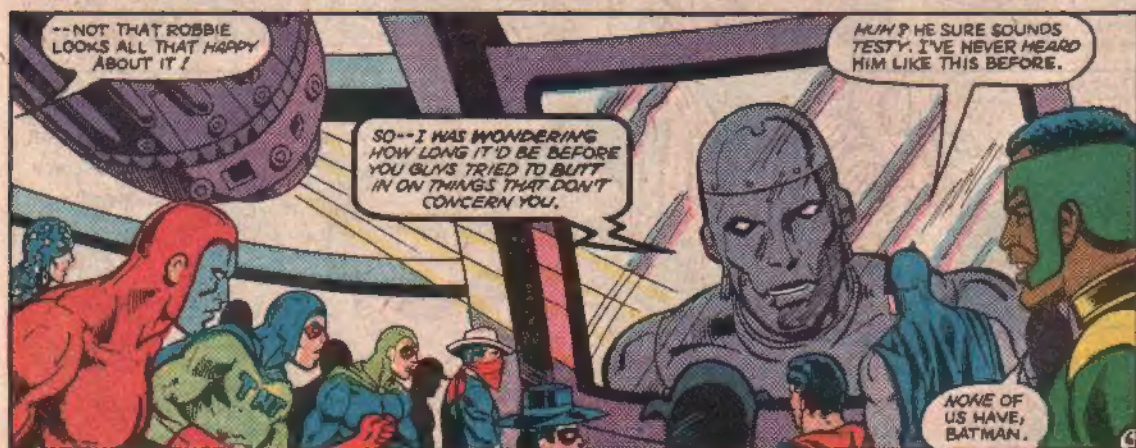
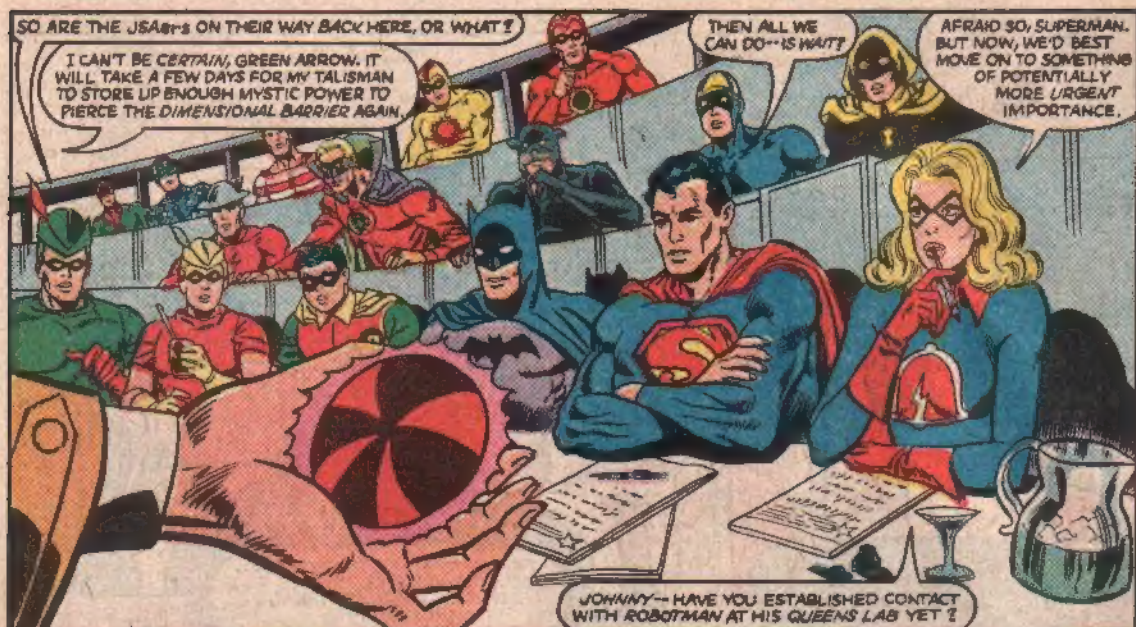


The following individuals donated their talent to create "A Song of Pain and Sorrow"

Jim Starlin
George Pérez
Kim DeMulder
Cary Bates
Patsy Cullins
Tony DeZuniga
James S. Maggin
Denys Cowan
Val Mayerik
Paul Levitz
Jan Duursema
Alfredo Alcala
Mike Barr
Keith Giffen
Joe Station
Mike Fleisher
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Klaus Janson
Bob Rozakis
Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez
Jerry Ordway
Roy Thomas
Carmine Infantino
Murphy Anderson
J.M. DeMatteis
Marshall Rogers
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Berni Wrightson
Mike Kaluta
Robert Loren Fleming
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Ed Barreto
Romeo Tanghal
Ed Hannigan
Jack Kirby
Al Milgrom
Mindy Newell
Tony Salmons
Tom Mandrake
Steve Englehart
Dan Jurgens
Bill Wray
Joey Cavalieri
Joe Kubert
Joe Rubinstein
Paul Kupperberg
David Ross
Howard Chaykin
Doug Moench
Jim Sherman
Alan Weiss

All profits from the sale of this book will be donated to famine relief in Ethiopia.





THIS ISN'T "BUTTING IN," ROBOTMAN. THIS IS OFFICIAL ALL-STAR SQUADRON BUSINESS.

A FEW DAYS AGO, A FEMALE-FORM ROBOT ATTACKED SEVERAL OF US HERE IN THE PERISHERE--

--AND YOU REMOVED HER TO YOUR OWN LABORATORY WITHOUT SEEKING PERMISSION.

BECAUSE, FAR AS I COULD TELL, I'M THE ONLY ALL-STAR WHO EVEN CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT SHE MIGHT NOT BE A ROBOT--AT LEAST AS YOU UNDERSTAND THE TERM--

--AND I COULDN'T CHANCE YOUR DECIDING TO DISMANTLE WHAT MIGHT WELL BE A SENTIENT LIFE FORM, AS HUMAN IN HER OWN WAY AS ANY OF US!

AW, COME OFF IT, ROBBIE. SHE'S ABOUT AS HUMAN AS OUR ROBOT BUTLER GERASBACK OR--

--OR ME, JOHNNY? ARE YOU REALLY CERTAIN YOU'D RECOGNIZE THAT I HAVE A HUMAN BRAIN, IF I SHOWED UP AS A STRANGER ON YOUR DOORSTEP?

PLEASE, JOHNNY-- LET ME HANDLE THIS. CAN'T YOU SEE ROB'S BECOME EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED WITH THIS ROBOT?

HEY, HE'S DONE MORE THAN THAT, LIB--

--LOOKS FROM HERE LIKE HE'S REPAIRED HER!

MY GOD--YOU'RE RIGHT! MORE THAN THAT--IT APPEARS HE'S PARTLY RE-DESIGNED HER AT THE SAME TIME!

SOME OF HER LINES ARE DIFFERENT THAN THEY WERE BEFORE!

IS THIS TRUE, ROBOTMAN? HAVE YOU ACTUALLY REPAIRED A ROBOT THAT KNOCKED FIREBRAND THROUGH A WALL--NEARLY ELECTROCUTED LIBERTY BELLE--?

I HAVE-- WITH THE HELP OF MY ASSISTANT, CHUCK GRAYSON.

"LAST ISSUE."
--ROD

SHE IS STILL UNCONSCIOUS-- AND IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY OTHER INFORMATION, I HAVE EVEN GIVEN HER A TENTATIVE NAME--

--MEKANIQUE!

EF-- ROB-- I THINK THE
POWER BUILD-UP FROM
THE STORM IS NEARLY
COMPLETED, AS
YOU WANTED.

A FEW MORE MINUTES,
AND WE SHOULD BE
ABLE TO REACTIVATE
THE ROBOT.

GOOD WORK, CHUCK.
JUST KEEP THE
ELECTRICAL IN-FEED
AT STABLE LEVELS,
WHILE I GIVE ALL THE
INSTRUMENTS A FINAL
ONCE-OVER.

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE
ME, LIBERTY BELLE-- I'VE
GOT MY OWN TASKS TO
GET BACK TO.

DON'T CALL ME, I'LL
CALL YOU WHEN I
KNOW THE RESULTS.

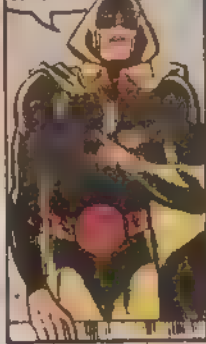
IT'S NOT THAT
SIMPLE, ROBOTMAN!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT
A POTENTIAL PUBLIC
MENACE HERE-- NOT
YOUR PERSONAL TINKER-
TOY SET!

AND I'M TALKING ABOUT POSSIBLY
LASHED OUT ONLY
BECAUSE SHE WAS CONFUSED-- AND
AT LEAST PARTLY AMNESIAC!

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR
BREATH, LADY. I MOVE WE
TAKE THAT SHE-ROBOT
BACK INTO CUSTODY--
PRONTO!



I SECOND THAT!
THE ROBOT ATTACKED
OUR HEADQUARTERS!
THAT MAKES IT OUR
CONCERN!



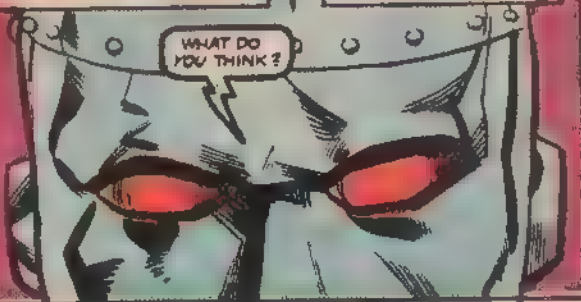
WHATEVER OUR DECISION,
AT LEAST JOHNNY'S
GOT THE RIGHT IDEA!
WE SHOULD VOTE
ON IT.



A VOTE'S BEEN
CALLED FOR,
ROBOTMAN. WILL
YOU AGREE TO
ABIDE BY OUR
DECISION?



WHAT DO
YOU THINK?



FIREBRAND--
WOULD YOU
TALLY THE VOTE
AS I CALL THE
ROLL?

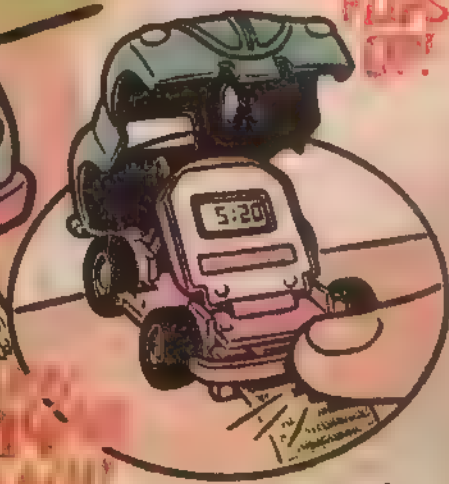
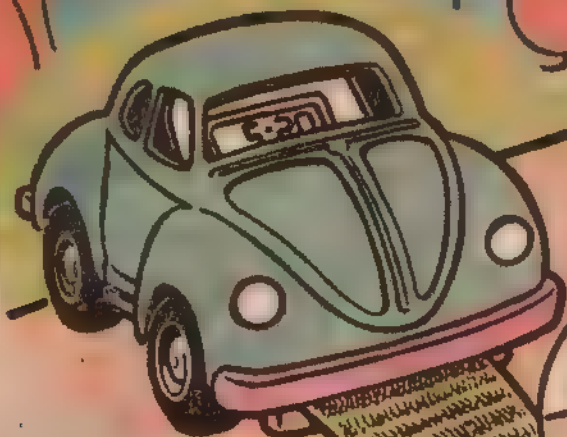


LET 'ER
RIP,
BELLE.

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THE BODY
FLIPS
UP!



It looks like wild pop sculpture, but this bug is actually a three-function LCD digital wrist watch!

Just press the front bumper and—**WHAM!**—the auto body flips open to reveal a big, bright Liquid Crystal Display that shows you (1) accurate time, (2) today's date, and (3) digital seconds. Comes complete with a **VELOVO** watch band that fits all wrists—secure, yet quick to remove. Slip the bug off the band, and it rolls on its own wheels—a miniature toy car.

NEW! The **BUS SPORTS WATCH** made of light-weight, space-age materials and comes with battery included and instructions in English, French and German. Each watch is packaged in a gift box, and there is a money-back **GUARANTEE** from the manufacturer.

Designed like a 1963 VW, the **BUS SPORTS WATCH** is a fun, practical alternative to the dull, standard wrist watch everyone else wears. Clever and attention-getting, the **BUS SPORTS WATCH** lets you move into fresh new fashion frontiers. Wear the **BUS** on your wrist, and watch what happens!



Wear your favorite, or get covered, in many other eye-catching and color schemes. Show up every day with a surprising new color! It's a great gift idea, when you're looking for something different!

CLIP or COPY

YEN . . . rush me the **BUS SPORTS WATCH** in color(s) I've selected below. I understand each watch comes packaged with illustrated instructions, one-year battery, replaceable and money-back guarantee!

Choose your colors:

- ☐ Bright Red
- ☐ Jet Black
- ☐ Pink w/Green bumpers
- ☐ Turquoise w/Pink bumpers
- ☐ Canary Yellow

Only \$14.95 each

Please add \$2.00 postage/handling for each watch.

Send check or money order to:
DC Comics Inc.
686 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10103
Attention: Mr. Ed Shukin

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

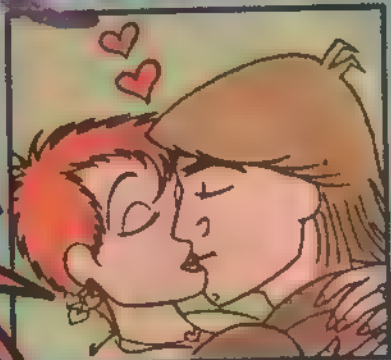
CITY _____

STATE _____

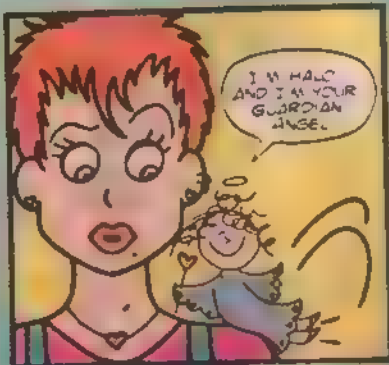
NOTE: Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery.

210

Angel Love is...



...warm

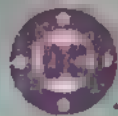


...whimsical

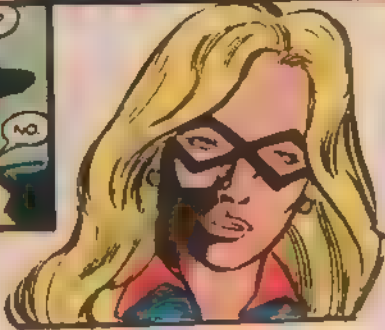


...and not at all
what you'd expect!

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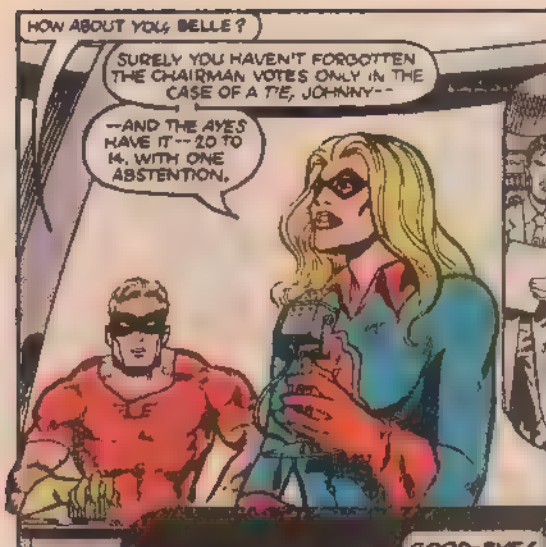


MOTION HAS BEEN MADE BY JOHNNY QUICK--AND SECONDED BY HOURMAN THAT ROBOTMAN SHOULD RETURN THE ROBOT HE CALLS MEKANIQUE TO THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE ALL-STAR SQUADRON. WE'LL TAKE THE VOTE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

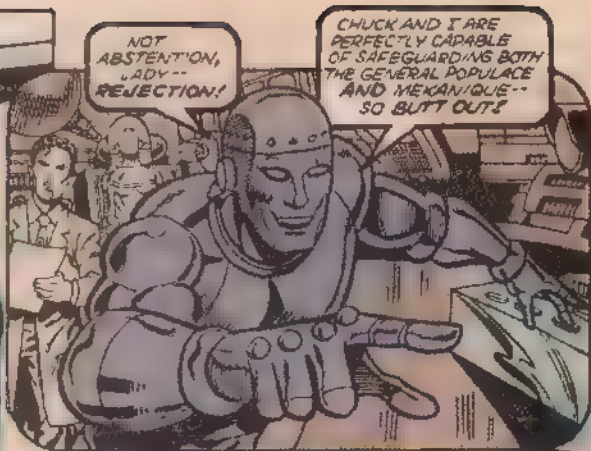
AIR WALKER YES	AMAZING-MAN NO	AQUAMAN JA NO	BATMAN YES	CRIMSON AVENGER YES	DR FATE YES
DR OCCULT YES	DYNA-MITE YES I GUESS	FIREBRAND YES	THE FLASH NO	GREEN ARROW YES	GREEN LANTERN YES
THE GLADIATOR NO	HAWKGIRL NO	HOURMAN YES	JOHNNY QUICK YES	MANHUNTER YES	MR AMERICA NO
MR TERRIFIC NO	ROBIN YES	ROBOTMAN I REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE THIS VOTE	SANDY NO, I TRUST ROBOTMAN	SARGON YES	THE SHINING KNIGHT AYE
SPEEDY NO	STRIPES NO	STAR-SPANGLED KID YES	SUPERMAN YES	TARANTULA NO	TNT YES
VIOLANTE NO	THE WHIP NO			WEDCA NOPE	WING YES

AND ZATARA.

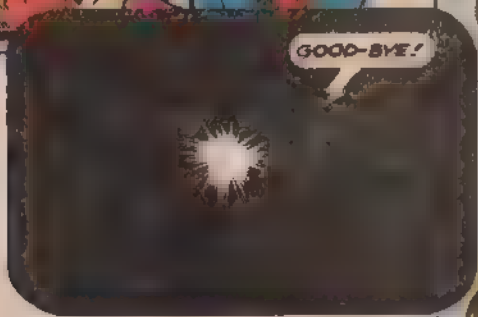
YES.



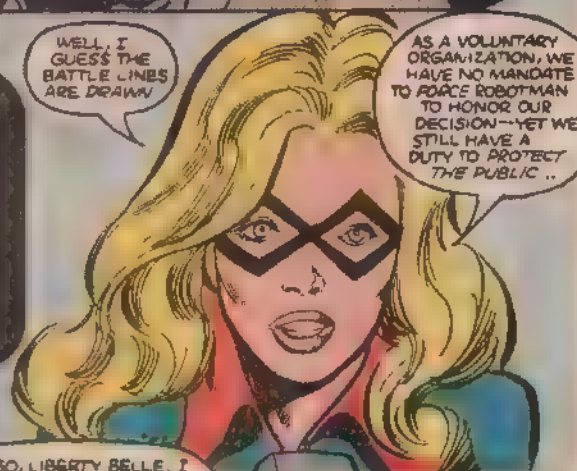
--AND THE AYES HAVE IT--20 TO 14, WITH ONE ABSTENTION.



CHUCK AND I ARE PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF SAFEGUARDING BOTH THE GENERAL POPULACE AND MEKANIQUE-- SO BUTT OUTS



GOOD-BYE!



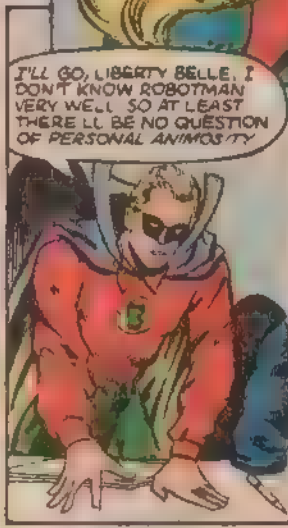
WELL, I GUESS THE BATTLE LINES ARE DRAWN

AS A VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION, WE HAVE NO MANDATE TO FORCE ROBOTMAN TO HONOR OUR DECISION--YET WE STILL HAVE A DUTY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC..

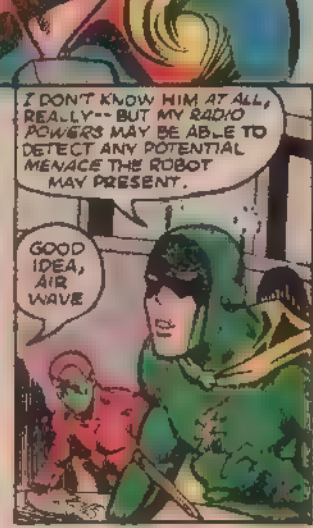


...SO I'M ASKING FOR A COMMITTEE TO CALL ON ROBOTMAN AT ONCE, AND TRY TO PERSUADE HIM TO RETURN THE ROBOT TO OUR KEEPING.

ANY VOLUNTEERS?

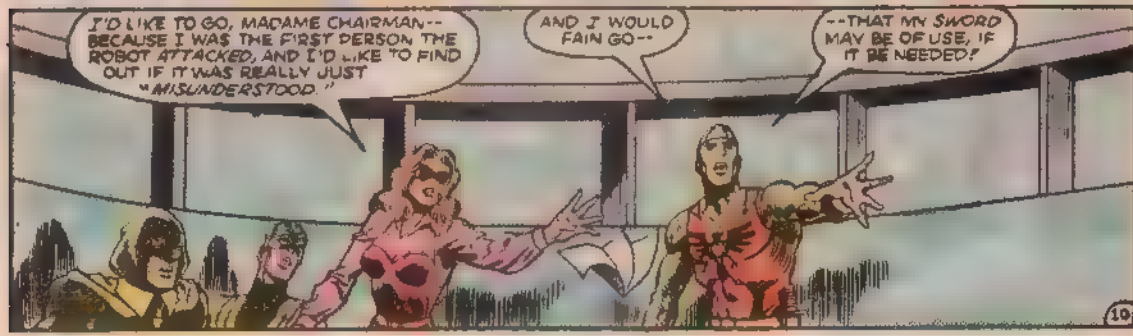


I'LL GO, LIBERTY BELLE. I DON'T KNOW ROBOTMAN VERY WELL, SO AT LEAST THERE'LL BE NO QUESTION OF PERSONAL ANIMOSITY.



I DON'T KNOW HIM AT ALL, REALLY-- BUT MY RADIO POWERS MAY BE ABLE TO DETECT ANY POTENTIAL MENACE THE ROBOT MAY PRESENT.

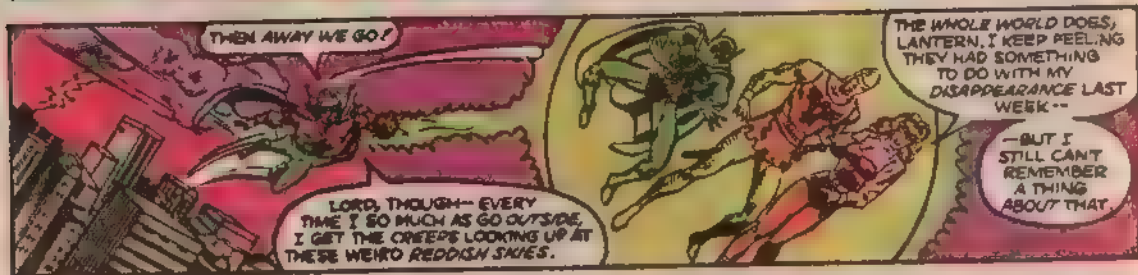
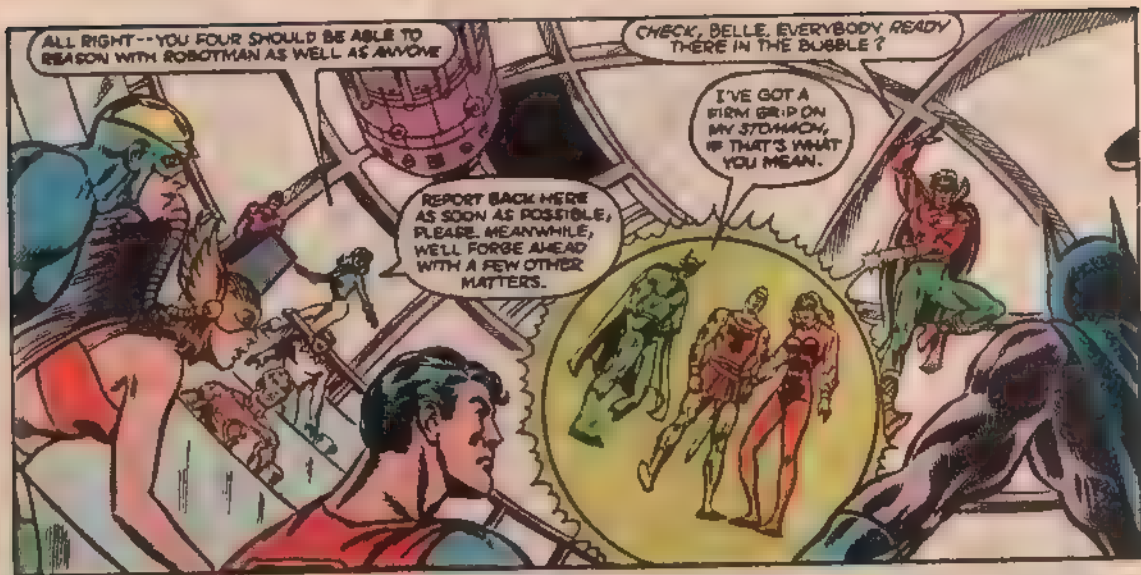
GOOD IDEA, AIR WAVE

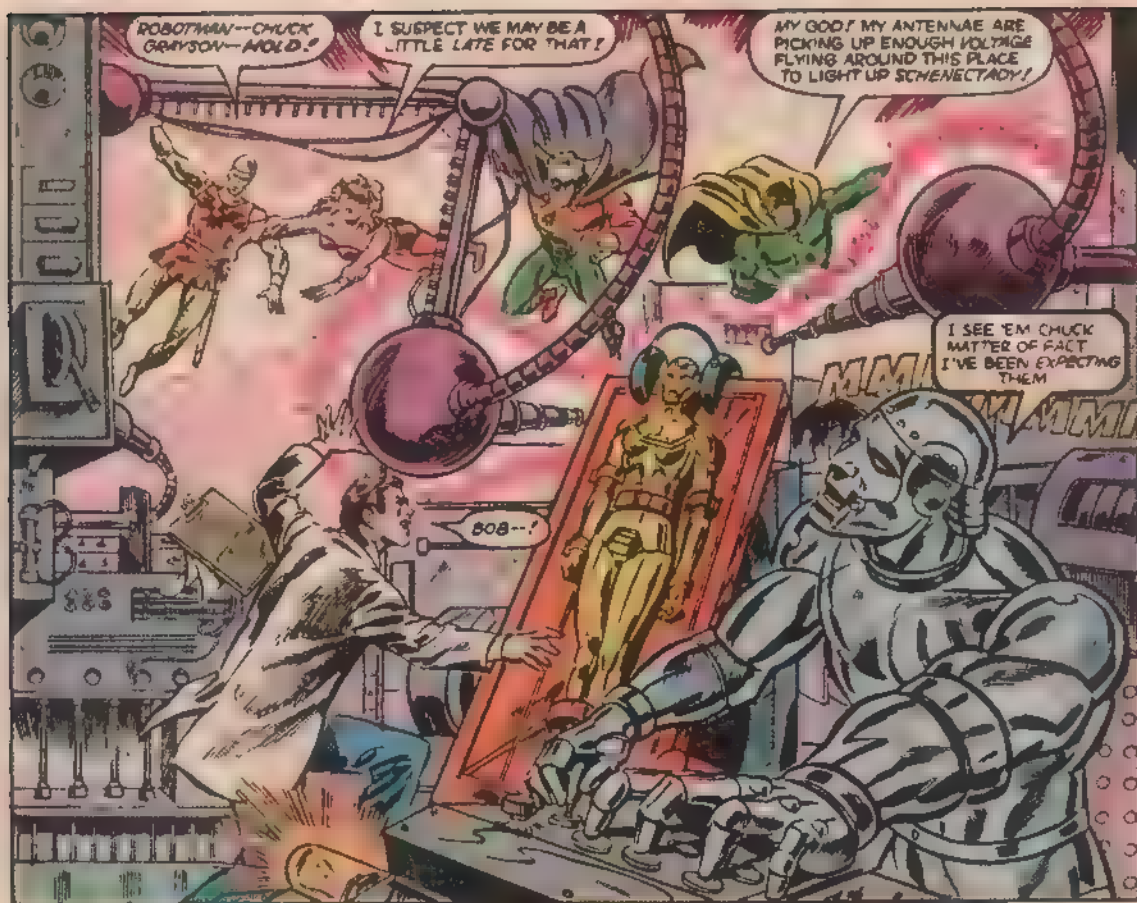


I'D LIKE TO GO, MADAME CHAIRMAN-- BECAUSE I WAS THE FIRST PERSON THE ROBOT ATTACKED, AND I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT IF IT WAS REALLY JUST "MISUNDERSTOOD."

AND I WOULD FAIR GO--

--THAT MY SWORD MAY BE OF USE, IF IT BE NEEDED?





ROBOTHAN--CHUCK GRAYSON--MOLD!

I SUSPECT WE MAY BE A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT!

MY GOD! MY ANTENNAE ARE PICKING UP ENOUGH VOLTAGE FLYING AROUND THIS PLACE TO LIGHT UP SCHENECTADY!

I SEE 'EM CHUCK. MATTER OF FACT I'VE BEEN EXPECTING THEM.

BOB--!



BUT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO STOP ME NOW. NOBODY IS.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, ROB? YOU WERE ALWAYS ONE OF THE MOST LEVEL-HEADED OF THE ALL-STARS.

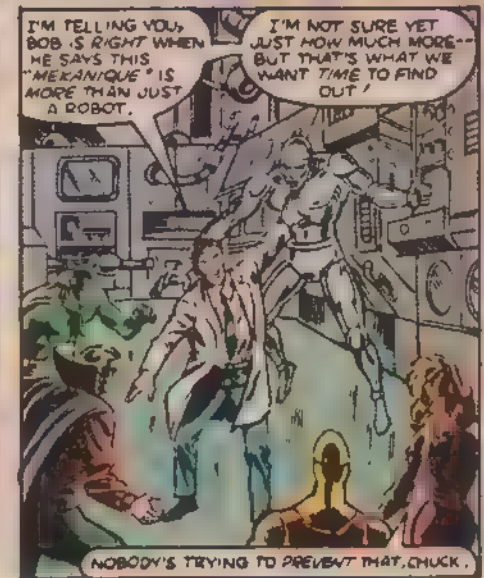
THEN ASSUME THAT I STILL AM--AND LEAVE ME ALONE TO DO WHAT I HAVE TO DO.

MAYBE THEY'LL LISTEN TO ME, BOB...



MOST OF YOU A'YOW ME, AT LEAST 'N PASSING.

AND YOU KNOW THAT, NEXT TO ROBOTHAN HIMSELF--I KNOW ROBOTS BETTER THAN ANY MAN ALIVE.



I'M TELLING YOU, BOB'S RIGHT WHEN HE SAYS THIS "MEKANIQUE" IS MORE THAN JUST A ROBOT.

I'M NOT SURE YET JUST HOW MUCH MORE--BUT THAT'S WHAT WE WANT TIME TO FIND OUT!

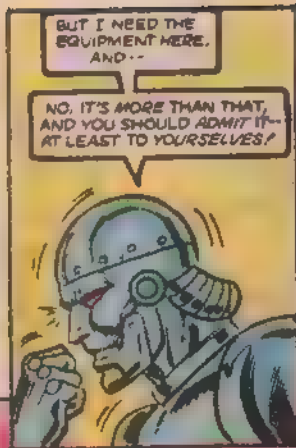
NOBODY'S TRYING TO PREVENT THAT, CHUCK.



LISTEN TO ME, ROB. ALL THE SQUADRON'S ASKING--

DEMANDING YOU MEAN?

--IS THAT YOU CONDUCT YOUR EXPERIMENTS AT THE PERISPHERE, WHERE WE CAN ALL KEEP AN EYE ON THE ROBOT?



BUT I NEED THE EQUIPMENT HERE, AND--

NO, IT'S MORE THAN THAT, AND YOU SHOULD ADMIT IT-- AT LEAST TO YOURSELVES!



YOU DON'T TRUST ME WITH HER-- BECAUSE YOU THINK OF HER AS SOME-THING LESS THAN HUMAN--



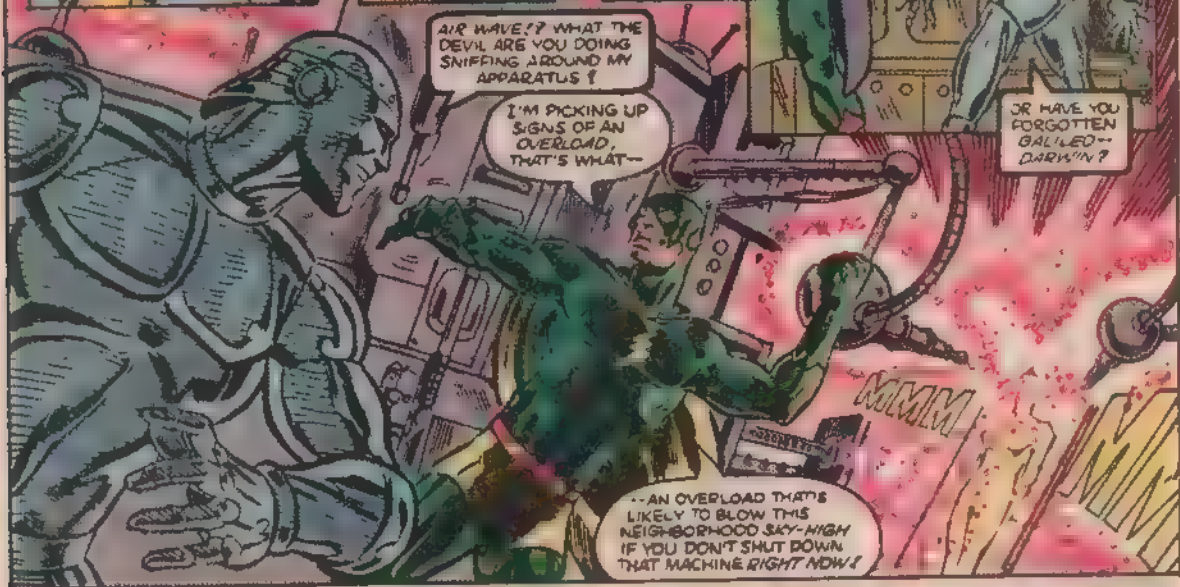
--AND YOU'RE STARTING TO THINK OF ME THE SAME WAY!

YOU'RE FULL OF IT, FRIEND! I'VE GOT AN ENGINEERING DEGREE MYSELF--SO STOP THINKING OF US LIKE WE'RE ALL A BUNCH OF PRIMITIVES ON SOME KIND OF WITCH HUNT!

IF YOU'RE AN ENGINEER, LANTERN, THEN YOU DAMN WELL OUGHT TO KNOW JUST HOW VALID MAJORITY RULE IS WHEN IT COMES TO MATTERS OF SCIENCE



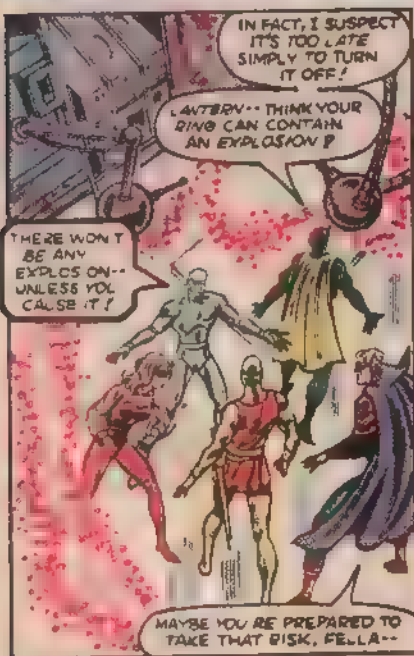
OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN GALLIED--DARK'N?



AIR WAVE?? WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOING SNIFFING AROUND MY APPARATUS?

I'M PICKING UP SIGNS OF AN OVERLOAD, THAT'S WHAT--

--AN OVERLOAD THAT'S LIKELY TO BLOW THIS NEIGHBORHOOD SKY-HIGH IF YOU DON'T SHUT DOWN THAT MACHINE RIGHT NOW!



IN FACT, I SUSPECT IT'S TOO LATE SIMPLY TO TURN IT OFF!

LANTERN-- THINK YOUR RING CAN CONTAIN AN EXPLOSION?

THERE WON'T BE ANY EXPLOSION-- UNLESS YOU CAUSE IT!

MAYBE YOU'RE PREPARED TO TAKE THAT RISK, FELLA--



--BUT I'M NOT!



YOU'RE NOT TOUCHING THAT MACHINE--OR MEXANIQUE--EITHER WITH YOUR JUMBO POWER RING, OR ANYTHING ELSE!

ARRRGH--!

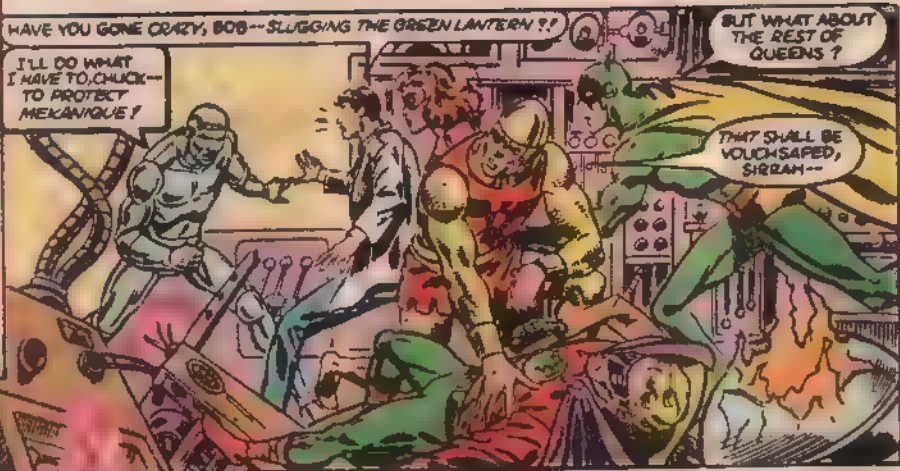


HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY, BOB--SLUGGING THE GREEN LANTERN?!

I'LL DO WHAT
I HAVE TO, CHUCK--
TO PROTECT
MEKANIQUE!

BUT WHAT ABOUT
THE REST OF
QUEENS?

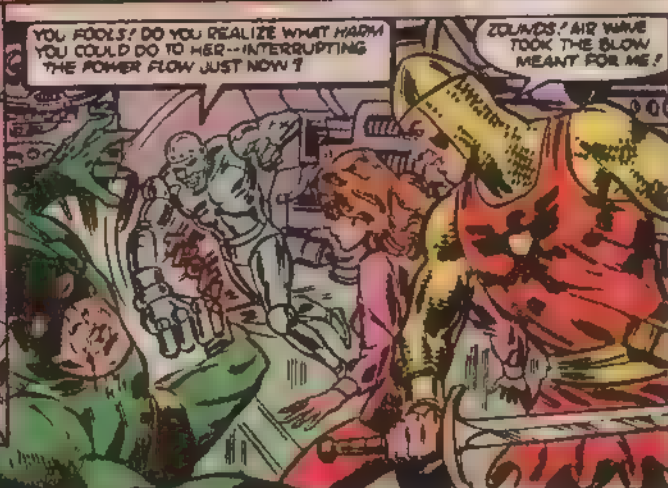
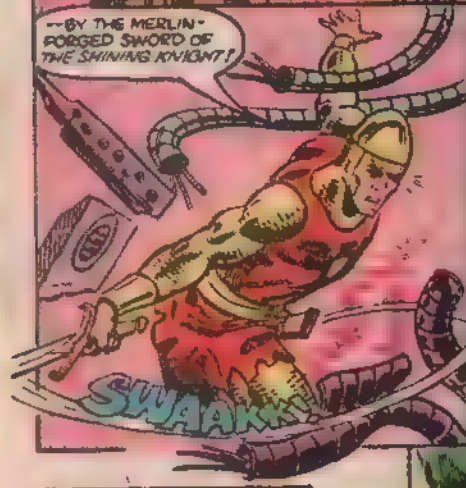
THAT SHALL BE
VOUCHSAFED,
SIRRAH--



--BY THE MERLIN--
FORGED SWORD OF
THE SHINING KNIGHT!

YOU FOOLS! DO YOU REALIZE WHAT HARM
YOU COULD DO TO HER--INTERRUPTING
THE POWER FLOW JUST NOW?

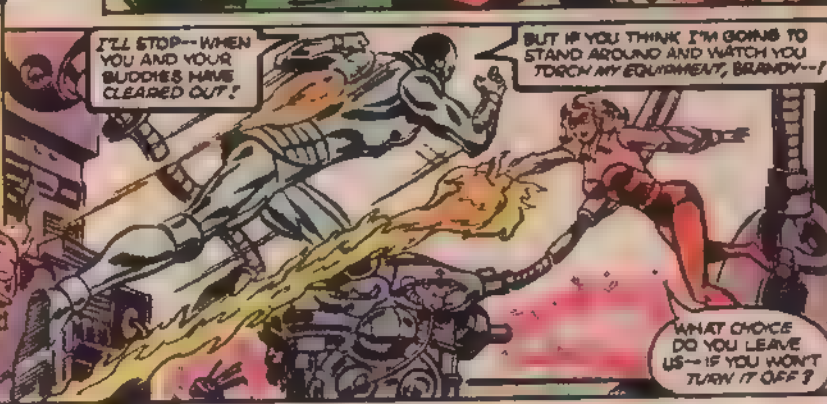
ZOUNDS! AIR WAVE
TOOK THE BLOW
MEANT FOR ME!



YOU'VE GOT TO STOP
FIGHTING BOB--BEFORE
SOMEBODY GETS KILLED!

I'LL STOP--WHEN
YOU AND YOUR
BUDDIES HAVE
CLEARED OUT!

BUT IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO
STAND AROUND AND WATCH YOU
TORCH MY EQUIPMENT, BRUNOY--!



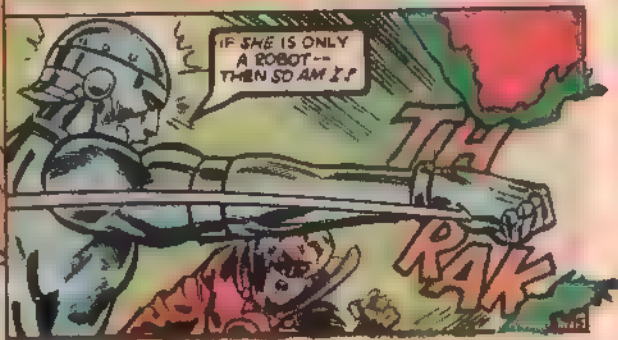
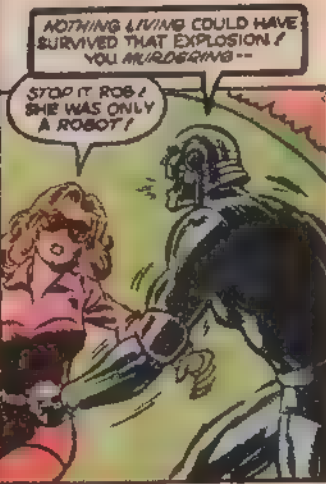
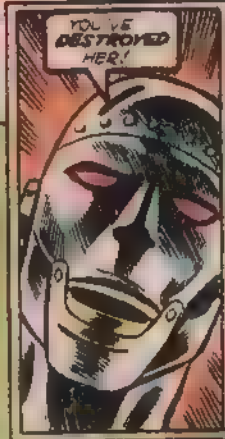
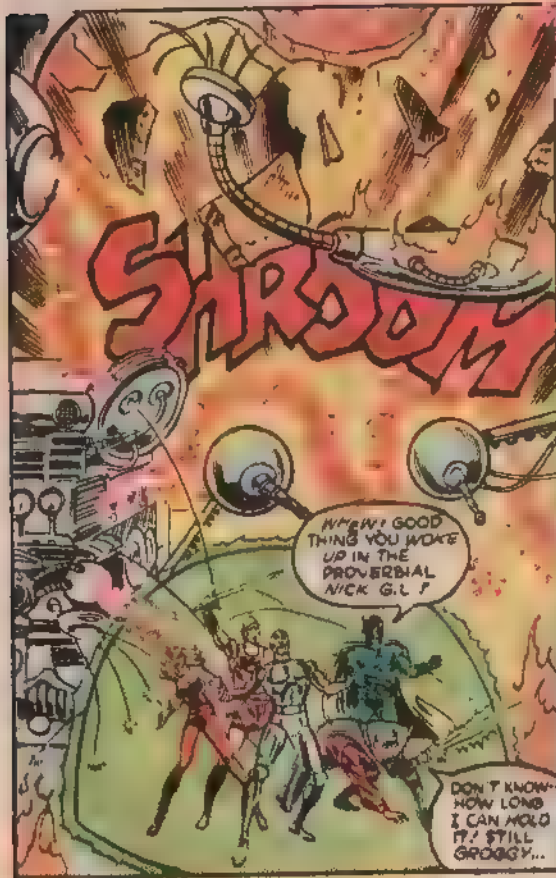
WHAT CHOICE
DO YOU LEAVE
US--IF YOU WON'T
TURN IT OFF?

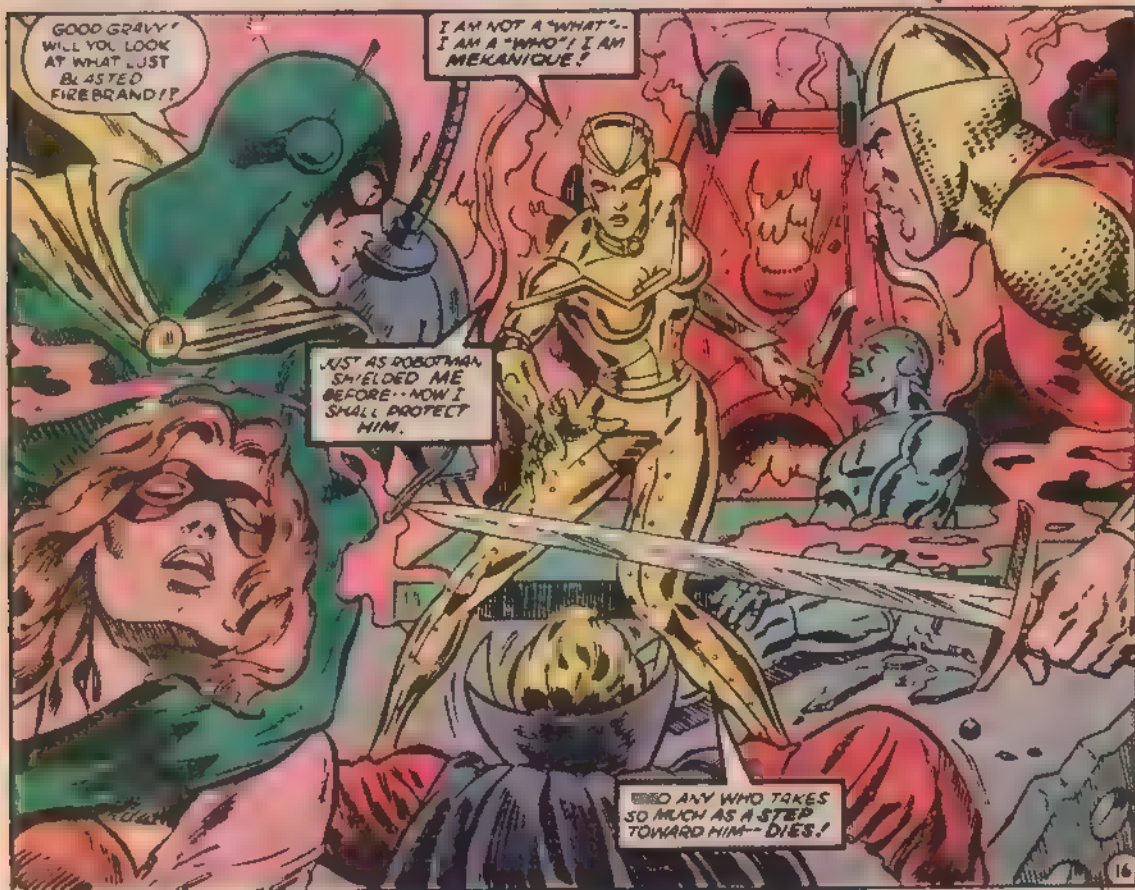


MY GOD!
I'VE GOT
TO--



WHAT'S YOUR HURRY, PAL?





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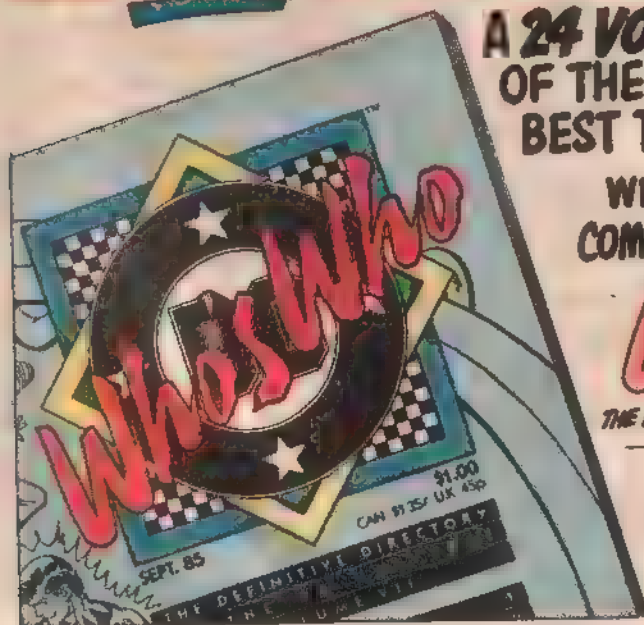
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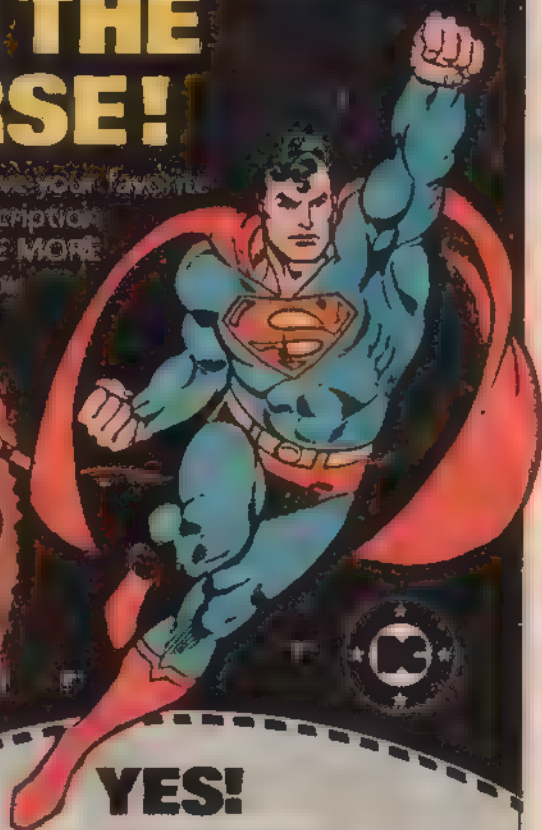
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IT IS FOUR BILLION MILES FROM FLUSHING MEADOW, QUEENS, TO THE PLANET PLUTO, DISCOVERED AS RECENTLY AS 1930.

IT IS EVEN FARTHER--AND YET IN ANOTHER SENSE, NO DISTANCE AT ALL--FROM EARTH TO THE "PSEUDO-PLUTO" OF HYPERSPACE, TOWARD WHICH A NAZI-BUILT ROCKET HURTLES

**RON HARRIS &
MIKE GUSTOVICH**
ARTISTS

ADAPTED FROM MATERIALS
IN ALL-STAR COMICS #13,
1942, BY GARDNER F. FOX
AND BERNARD BAILEY

**JUSTICE
SOCIETY
OF AMERICA**

**"SHANGHAIED INTO
HYPERSPACE!"**

INTERLUDE EIGHT



INSIDE IS THE WRAITHLIKE
JESAI-- KNOWN ONLY AS--

THE SPECTRE!

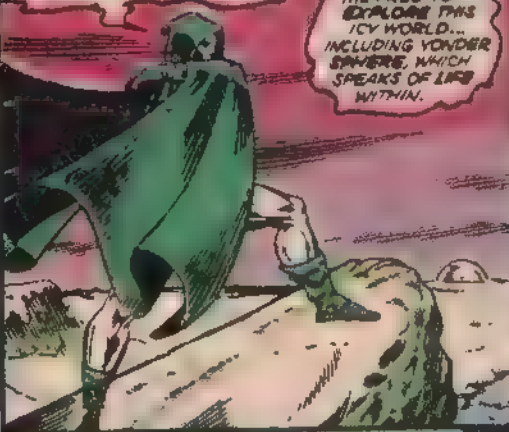


INSIDE, THAT IS--UNTIL THE
INSTANT BEFORE THE
PLUMMETING MISSILE STRIKES
A SURFACE FROZEN HARDER
THAN TEMPERED STEEL...



SOMEONE ON
EARTH WENT TO
CONSIDERABLE
TROUBLE TO
DISPOSE OF
THE JUSTICE
SOCIETY...

BUT MY SUPERNATURAL POWERS
TELL ME THAT MY SEVEN COLLEAGUES
ARE ALIVE AND WELL, IN THEIR
HYPERSPACE PLACES OF EXILE.



THAT LEAVES
ME FREE TO
EXPLORE THIS
ICY WORLD...
INCLUDING YONDER
SPHERE, WHICH
SPEAKS OF LIFE
WITHIN.

BEFORE RETURNING TO EARTH--TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF HOW MERE HUMAN MEANS FELLED ONE WHO IS AN UNDEAD SPIRIT--

-- I WOULD LEARN SOMETHING OF THE INHABITANTS OF SUCH A COLD, FORBIDDING PLACE.

INTERESTING. THE SPHERE IS BUT A COVER FOR SOME SORT OF ARTIFICIAL SHAFT LEADING BELOW THE PLANET'S SURFACE.

AH... A CITY, WITH A DISTINCTLY HUMANOID LOOK ABOUT IT!

HUMANLIKE IN MORE THAN ONE WAY, IT SEEMS

JUST AS ON EARTH-- THIS WORLD'S DENIZENS REACT TO ANY UNFAMILIAR SIGHT WITH UNREASONING VIOLENCE.

UNREASONING-- AND AGAINST THE SPECTRE, TOTALLY INEFFECTIVE.

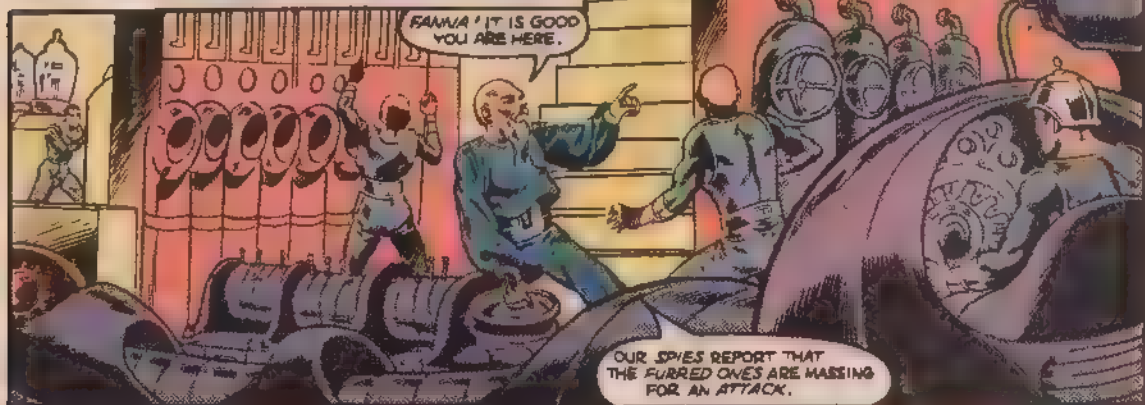
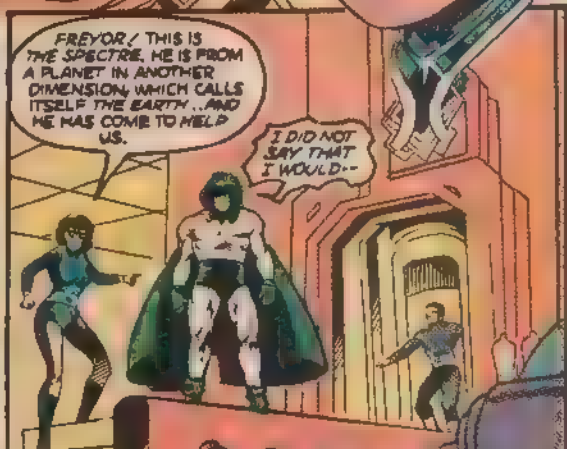
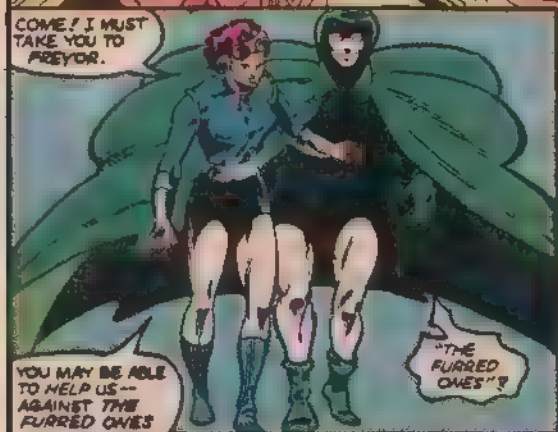
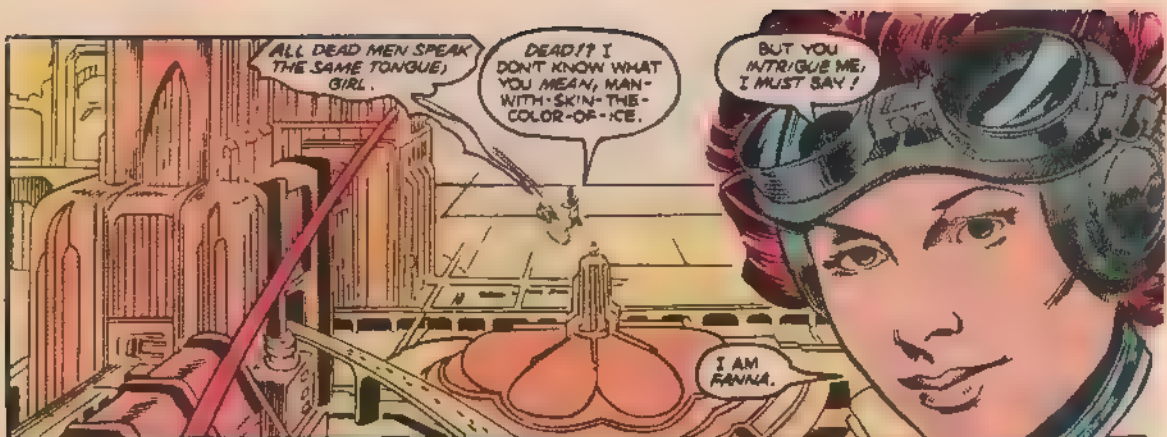
AGA! AGA! DWIN!

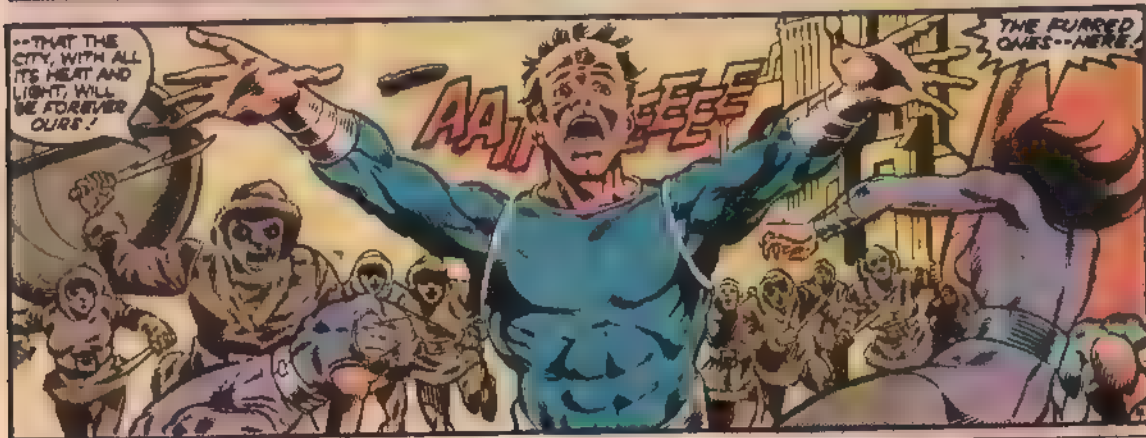
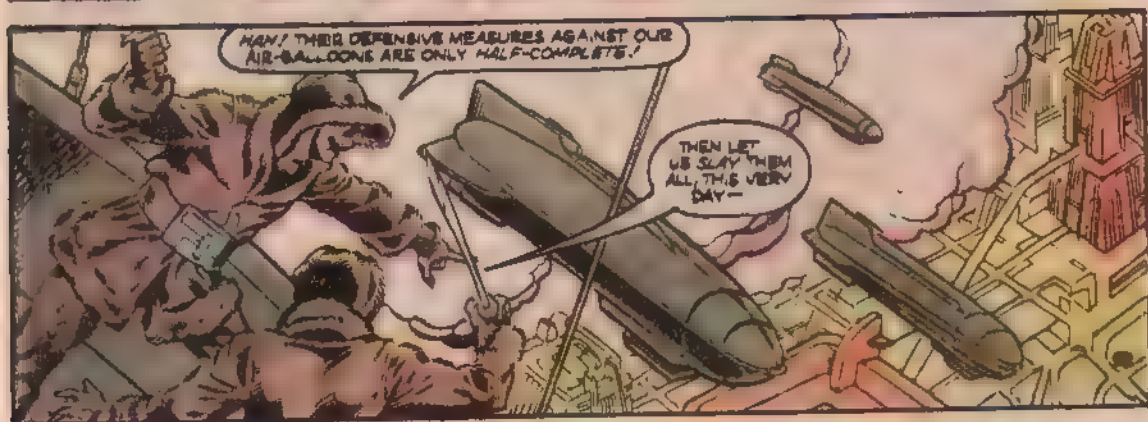
TO LEARN MORE, I SEE I MUST SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF THIS CIVILIZATION.

NOR! NOR GALL TOGO!

I SEE--IT IS AN ARCHAIC FORM OF THAT OF THE ANDROMEDAN PLANETS!

Y-YOU SUDDENLY SPEAK OUR TONGUE-- PERFECTLY!





CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

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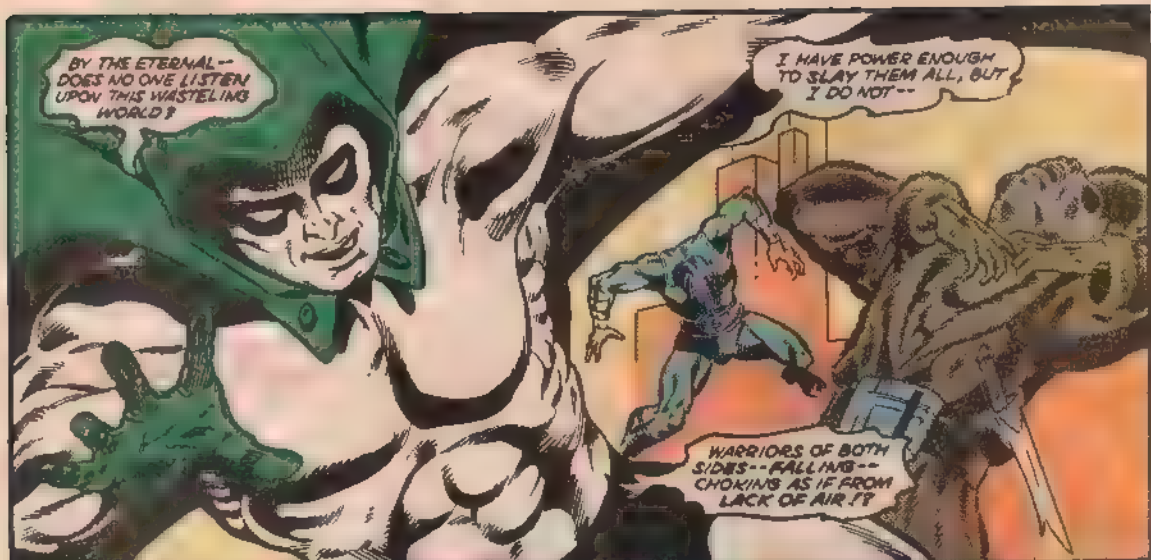
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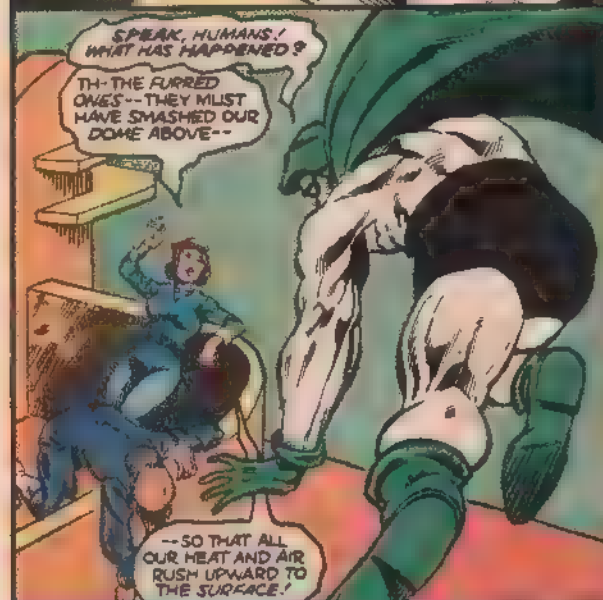
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BY THE ETERNAL--
DOES NO ONE LISTEN
UPON THIS WASTELING
WORLD?

I HAVE POWER ENOUGH
TO SLAY THEM ALL, BUT
I DO NOT--

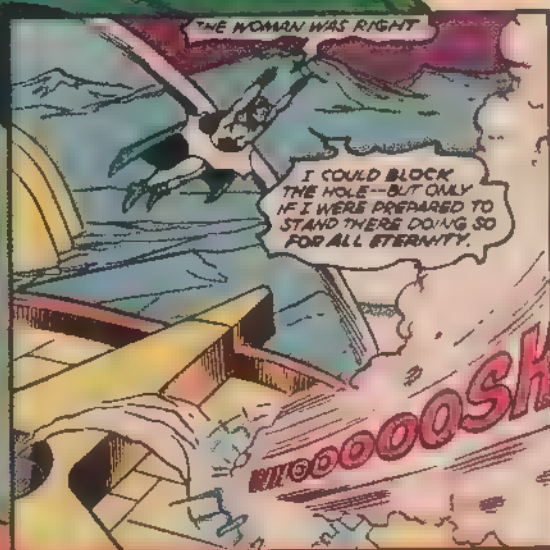
WARRIORS OF BOTH
SIDES--FALLING--
CHOKING AS IF FROM
LACK OF AIR IT



SPEAK, HUMANS!
WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

TH- THE FURRED
ONES--THEY MUST
HAVE SMASHED OUR
DOME ABOVE--

--SO THAT ALL
OUR HEAT AND AIR
RUSH UPWARD TO
THE SURFACE!

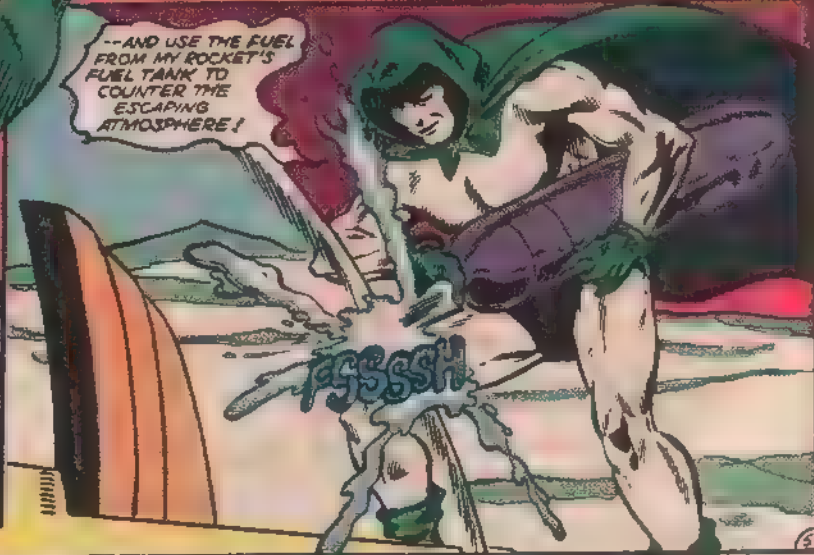


THE WOMAN WAS RIGHT

I COULD BLOCK
THE HOLE--BUT ONLY
IF I WERE PREPARED TO
STAND THERE DOING SO
FOR ALL ETERNITY.

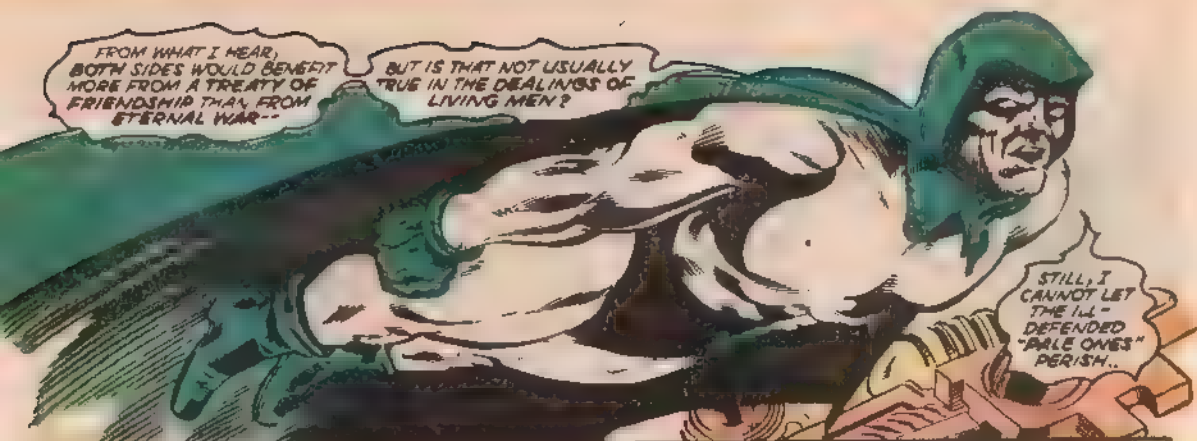


A FAR BETTER WAY
IS SIMPLY TO GROW
TO GIGANTIC
PROPORTIONS--



--AND USE THE FUEL
FROM MY ROCKET'S
FUEL TANK TO
COUNTER THE
ESCAPING
ATMOSPHERE!

EGSSSH



FROM WHAT I HEAR,
BOTH SIDES WOULD BENEFIT
MORE FROM A TREATY OF
FRIENDSHIP THAN FROM
ETERNAL WAR--

BUT IS THAT NOT USUALLY
TRUE IN THE DEALINGS OF
LIVING MEN?

STILL, I
CANNOT LET
THE IL-
DEFENDED
"PALE ONES"
PERISH..



FREYOR: OUR SENSORS REPORT THAT OUR SURFACE DOME
WAS BROKEN WHEN THE FURRED ONES ENTERED!

OUR ARTIFICIAL ATMOSPHERE
IS POURING OUT AT A TERRIBLE
RATE!

THEN--WE
SHALL ALL
DIE!



THOSE UNTHINKING
FOOLS! THEY WANTED
TO CONQUER US AND HARM
THEMSELVES IN OUR GREAT
CITY--

--BUT THEY HAVE
ONLY SUCCEEDED
IN DESTROYING
IT!



I AM NEITHER SIDE'S CHAMPION! I FIGHT
MEREY TO PREVENT
FURTHER BLOODSHED.

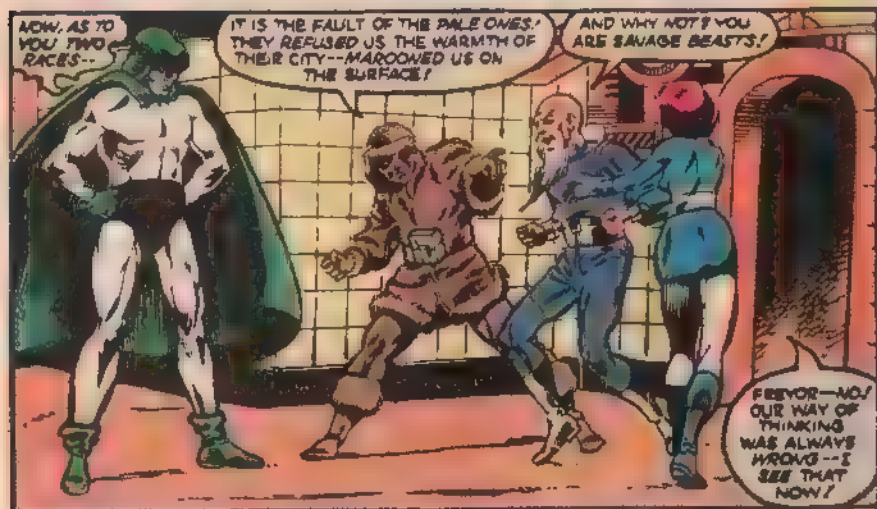
LOOK, MY
BROTHERS! THE
PALE ONES HAVE A
NEW CHAMPION--
HIS SKIN WHITER
EVEN THAN
THEIRS!

AGE!

DEATH!
DEATH TO
THE PALE
ONES AND
THEIR
CHAMPION!



THE EARTH-FUEL IS FROZEN SOLID-- AND NOW CARS THE DAMAGED DOME AS SECURELY AS IF IT WERE THE STRONGEST METAL KNOWN!

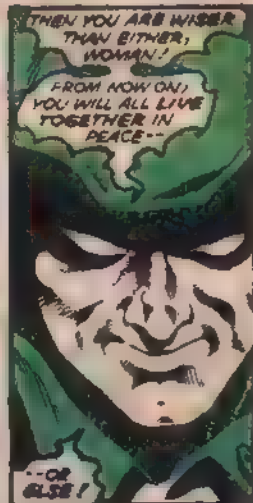


ADW, AS TO YOU TWO RACES--

IT IS THE FAULT OF THE PALE ONES! THEY REFUSED US THE WARMTH OF THEIR CITY--MAROONED US ON THE SURFACE!

AND WHY NOT? YOU ARE SAVAGE BEASTS!

FEEVOR--NO! OUR WAY OF THINKING WAS ALWAYS WRONG--I SEE THAT NOW!



FROM NOW ON, YOU WILL ALL LIVE TOGETHER IN PEACE--

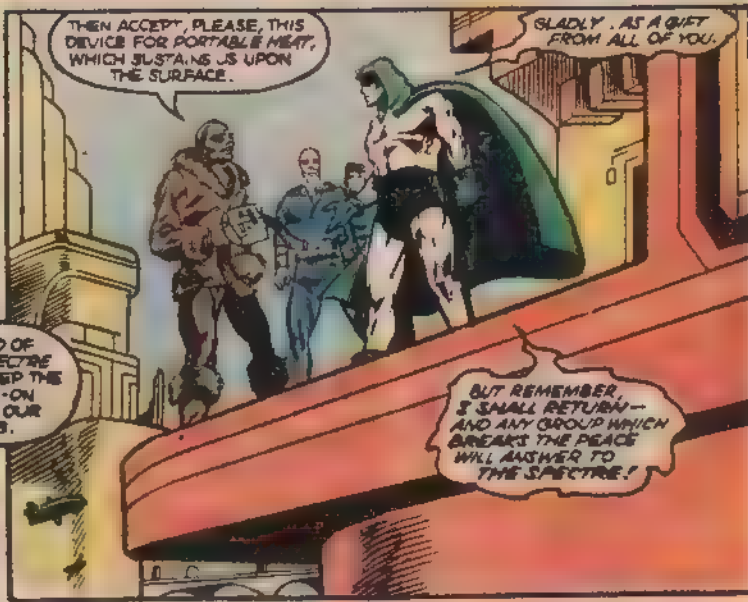
--OR ELSE!



WE--WE WILL GIVE HOSTAGES TO SEAL OUR NEW FRIENDSHIP, FREYOR.

THERE IS NO NEED, THERMO.

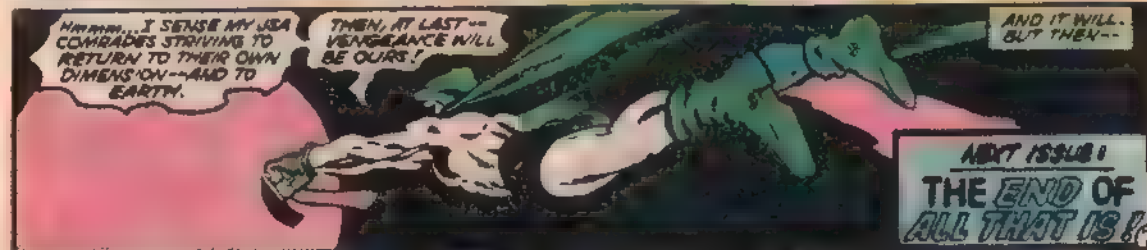
DREAD OF THE SPECTRE WILL KEEP THE PEACE--ON BOTH OUR SIDES.



THEN ACCEPT, PLEASE, THIS DEVICE FOR PORTABLE HEAT, WHICH SUSTAINS US UPON THE SURFACE.

GLADLY, AS A GIFT FROM ALL OF YOU.

BUT REMEMBER, I SHALL RETURN--AND ANY GROUP WHICH BREAKS THE PEACE WILL ANSWER TO THE SPECTRE!



HMM... I SENSE MY USA COMRADES STRIVING TO RETURN TO THEIR OWN DIMENSION--AND TO EARTH.

THEN, AT LAST--VENGEANCE WILL BE OURS!

AND IT WILL... BUT THEN--

NEXT ISSUE!
THE END OF ALL THAT IS!



SPECIAL NOTE: Just wanted to pass on to you a gratifying quotation from a recent (Nov. 11, 1985) issue of *Newsweek*. In a piece called "Death of the Superheroes" in the rotating column "My Turn," guest writer Mark A. Perigard takes today's comics to task for killing off so many characters.

Not that I agree with all of Mr. Perigard's conclusions, but he has some favorable ones, too. For instance, he points out that "the artwork has improved, the depth of characterization is more sophisticated, and today's comics, reflecting the diversity of the world, feature growing numbers of women and minorities in important roles."

He goes on to state, "Ironically enough, one comic book currently published that comes closest to capturing the noble, truer-than-blue heroes is DC's ALL-STAR SQUADRON, a series set, appropriately enough, during World War II, perhaps the very last time in history that the United States had a clear sense of moral righteousness."

Thanks, Mark. We'll take plugs where we can get 'em!

—Roy Thomas.

Dear Roy,

Now that another loose end—the Monster Society of Evil (oops, I meant "of OOM")—has been tied up in ALL-STAR SQUADRON, that leaves only two more to go.

Since CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS #12 goes on sale next week, I assume that most of the CRISIS tie-ins (Firebrand, Liberty Belle, Johnny Quick, etc.) will conclude next issue. Hopefully, the JSA tie-in from ALL-STAR COMICS #13 will be done before it's 1987 for May 1942, whichever comes first to this series).

I enjoyed the vignettes of the various heroes on p. 1., and the use of the Flash pin-up on page 7 was a delight. (By the by, who did that page, and will he be doing any more pages for this book?)

In regards to the Firebrand/CRISIS story line, it will be interesting to see how you use the "History's Heroes" next issue. Suffice it to say that with the exception of Firebrand, all of these heroes were neither given speaking parts by Marv Wolfman nor drawn by George Pérez in CRISIS #1-11. Congratulations on the addition of these heroes to the Crisis, thus giving the time displacement a bit more play.

My big art complaint was that Alfredo Alcala didn't pencil or ink the pages with "History's Heroes," due to his wonder-

ful art for "Whatever Happened to the Black Pirate?" back in DC PRESENTS. I do feel that, barring the return of Jerry Ordway or the acquiring of Todd McFarlane (of INFINITY, INC.) to these pages, Mike Clark and Alfredo Alcala should be the first team of artists. Arvell Jones is also good, but the inking seems to knock everyone's work down a peg.

While we're in the credits department of this letter, which part of this issue's story (and how much) did Dann Thomas do? Might it be the latter portion? Carl Gafford did a wonderful coloring of Earth-Two in Crisis, especially the red skies (even at night). And David Weiss did his usual good job with the lettering.

P.S. Regarding the book *The President's Mystery Story*, which you inquired about in the letters page, I myself do not have a copy but read about it in *The Book of Lists*.

Hurricane Heeran
15808 Sherman Way #5
Van Nuys, CA 91406

And thanks a heap (remember that Golden-Age hero, H.M.?) for sending the following quote from that book. The 1935 work is described thus:

"At a White House dinner in 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt described to Liberty magazine editor Fulton Oursler a rudimentary plot: A man with several million dollars experiences a midlife crisis, precipitated by a stale marriage and boring work; he dreams of starting over as a wealthy, single man with a new identity. Roosevelt had been unable to follow his story through the completion because he could not resolve one crucial problem: 'How can a man disappear with \$5 million in any negotiable form and not be traced?' Oursler engaged six mystery writers to solve the problem and flesh out the sketchy plot. He wrote one chapter himself, under a pseudonym. The President's Mystery Story ran as a serial in Liberty, was published as a book, and was made into a movie."

Brief responses to other points:

(1) Ordinarily Dann co-plots ALL-STAR SQUADRON with me, and that's what she did on #54; but she did a lot of the preliminary dialoguing on #55, in preparation for our trip to Great Britain last September. (Hmmm ... maybe I should've stayed home. Third day in London, I got myself run down by a motorbike while I was running in Hyde Park, spent several days in the hospital, and wound up driving all over England,

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Scotland, and Wales with my right arm in a cast.)

(2) Because of unexpected major post-CRISIS changes rung in on me (the banishment of Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman from DC history in particular), I've had to revamp ALL-STAR SQUADRON so that the Crisis, or at least certain lingering aspects of it, won't end until next issue. #60—the same issue in which the eight missing JSAs will at last return from hyperspace.

But the 1942 end of Crisis effects is far from the only reason for picking up next issue! For there'll be a special announcement about the future direction of the series which I'm sure will surprise virtually every reader. Be here, okay?

(3) The Flash page was drawn by Jerry Acerna, who was also on hand last issue to ink Mike Clark's Johnny Thunder feature. Sorry his credit didn't get added to our splash page, as 'twas supposed to be. You saw a bit more of Alcala's inking in #57, too.

—R.T.

Dear Roy,

My compliments on the past few issues of ALL-STAR SQUADRON. It has been tying in nicely with CRISIS (I especially liked the issue in which all the heroes are placed on the proper alternate earths).

By the way, Roy, fear not! The Golden-Age Hawkman DID appear in issue #49—even though it was only in the cover of issue #50 on that issue's letters page! That counts, right?

John Migliore
Silver Snail Hamilton
235 King St. E.
Hamilton, Ont., Canada
L8N-1B6

Hadn't meant it to, John, but we'll take what we can get. Thanks!

—R.T.

Dear Roy,

I really enjoyed ALL-STAR SQUADRON #54, "The Crisis Comes to 1942 (And Vice Versa!)," mainly because the Crisis on Infinite Earths did not figure prominently until page 17, about 3/4 of the way through the story. Until then the Crisis was limited to the red skies over Earth-Two and some stray lightning bolts in the battle with the

Society of Oom, and that's the way I like it.

Now, I really liked the CRISIS maxi-series by Wolfman, Pérez, and Ordway (except for the destruction of Earth-Two!) [Me, too!—R.T.]. However, most of the highly-touted "Special Crisis Crossovers" have been very disappointing. The attempt to blend the Crisis into the ongoing continuity of almost every book in DC's line has led to a hodge-podge of cross-references and a lot of confusion; also, it has disrupted the normal flow of events in most series, shooting plot lines off in impossible directions with one appearance of Herbie.

You have been doing a great job of working the Crisis into ALL-STAR SQUADRON, though, especially #54. You did a wonderful job of taking those Golden-Age, largely forgotten bad guys and melding them into a new team of super-criminals.

I am especially fond of Mr. Who and The Dummy, a pair of real strange birds with definitely bizarre personalities. Oom was great, too, but he could obviously never belong to a group over any longer period of time. His end was fitting—and truly disgusting. The scene where Oom explodes, covering Green Lantern with gray slime, was gross but effective.

The battle at the Perisphère was a lot of fun, a real grudge match. I like the characters you featured, too—Green Lantern, Flash, Tarantula, and Amazing-Man. Hourman was a drag, though; either solve the Miracle problem and get him back in action, or get him out of the book for a while. I hate to see him stringing along with the big guns, whimpering and getting flung around by the bad guys. He is one of my all-time favorite All-Stars, and he deserves a lot better.

I was surprised you destroyed the Perisphère, Roy. What now? Will the All-Stars get a new headquarters? I hope not, because I feel the Perisphère is a perfect place for the group. Who would have thought the Perisphère would be used as a bowling ball? Yes, I guess Who would have!

The first page of the story was nifty, too. I really liked the way you went from one hero to the next, having their thought balloons flow into each other. It was a nice device, and a quick way to set up the coming action.

Mike, Arvell, Alfredo, and Vince did a fine job on the art, too ... the best I've seen on this mag for a long stretch. Keep Alfredo on Mike's pencils, if possible; I think their styles blend together well.

Robert T. Jeschonek
129 Hosteller Rd.
Johnstown, PA 15904

Glad you enjoyed all the CRISIS tie-ins, Robert. Balancing those out with both the regular adventures and the tangentially-related "Shanghaied into Hyperspace" story line between #50-60 has caused a lot of headaches (partly mine, partly the artists', maybe partly you readers'), but evidently it's been worth it.

—R.T.

Dear Roy,

You are horrible person. You kill Big Star of this mag. But this is comics. I know that "dead" people can come back. So you bring back Big Star of mag. Or else. Or else what? I not say, but remember you are just puny writer. Who is "Big Star," you ask? You are very brave to tempt my anger with such a stupid question. Of course, Big Star is Oom. My hero. You do bad thing. You kill Oom. You blow up Oom. Oom go boom.

"Goofy Maple"
Canada

Actually, G.M., he went "EYAAHHH" and "FBLAAAMM," but who's keeping track?

—R.T.

.....

Dear Roy,

The Oom society finale in #54 was a good idea. The Firebrand sequence was also good, but you really should not take on so much in just one issue. Try to limit the stories in ALL-STAR SQUADRON in the future to two when you have more than one story running at the same time.

There are several suggestions I have to make.

Number one: Bring back Jerry Ordway.

Number two: Limit ALL-STAR SQUADRON stories to Earth-Two.

Number three: Have more stories dealing with mystery-men behind enemy lines, e.g., the Captain Marvel story in #36-37 when Batman and company rescued Billy Batson.

Number four: Have more stories dealing with non-powered mystery-men that you don't use a whole lot, like Batman and Wildcat.

By the way, Roy, a few years ago a publication called *Dragontales* came out with several short stories, one of which was by Gardner F. Fox. It was an excellent piece, and even though you are a marvelous writer, I'd like to see a story written by Mr. Fox show up in ALL-STAR SQUADRON.

David Levine
3501 Rittenhouse St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20015

(1) Jerry Ordway's not available to us now as regular artist, alas—though he did do next issue's beautiful cover. Sorry.

(2) No more Earth-Two. Even sorer.

(3) Most readers seem to want less material abroad, not more ... but wait and see.

(4) Will do. We keep looking for a good spot for Wildcat in particular ... though meanwhile he's popped up prominently (as has his new female counterpart) in our companion mag, INFINITY, INC.

(5) I've tried to get Gardner Fox, co-creator of the Justice Society of America, to plot or co-plot a story from time to time; but Ger's more or less retired now, and doesn't relish getting back into that particular harness. But some of his work shines through in the adaptation of ALL-STAR COMICS #13 we've been running off and on since #50.

—R.T.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Hopefully, the National Gallery of Canada reprint of part of *Triumph Comics* #29 made it to your desk. I don't know if you've seen any samples of Canadian whites from the 1940's, so I thought I would send you this reprint to add to your collection.

Also, if you ever decide to create a Canadian super-hero or team to appear in ALL-STAR SQUADRON, this NGC reprint would serve as good reference material. There's a certain similarity between the costumes of Speed Savage/White Mask and DC's 1940 Simon-and-Kirby Sandman. Many Canadian heroes during the 1940's were copies of U.S. heroes.

For example, Captain Marvel met Hitler; so did Leo Machie's Johnny Canuck. Also, Captain Wonder was a Canadian version of Captain Marvel.

Looking forward to your SECRET ORIGINS comics magazine, I hope some of DC's more obscure heroes will appear in it.

Jonathan Gilbert
271 Southcrest Drive
London, Ont. Canada
N6J 1N3

SECRET ORIGINS #13's Captain Marvel tale hardly fit the bill. J.G. But in #5 you'll meet the Crimson Avenger, way back before he even wore a full costume, and if that doesn't fill your order for an obscure hero, nothing will! All the same, with 1938-style artwork by the talented Gene Colan, going beyond even his NATHANIEL DUSK work, we won't be surprised if SECRET ORIGINS #5 brings forth a hue and cry for a whole series about DC's first masked hero!

And thanks muchly for the reprint of that Canadian comic, which featured such heroes as Speed Savage (vs. The Mole), Major Domo, Ace Barton, and the beautiful Nelvana of the Northern Lights. Readers interested in the Canadian comics which came out during World War Two, when U.S. imports were largely barred from Canada, would do well to look for an out-of-print book from a decade or so ago called *The Great Canadian Comic-Book Heroes*.

And did anybody out there know that the original Commander Steel (though a quite different character) was a Canadian hero?

—R.T.





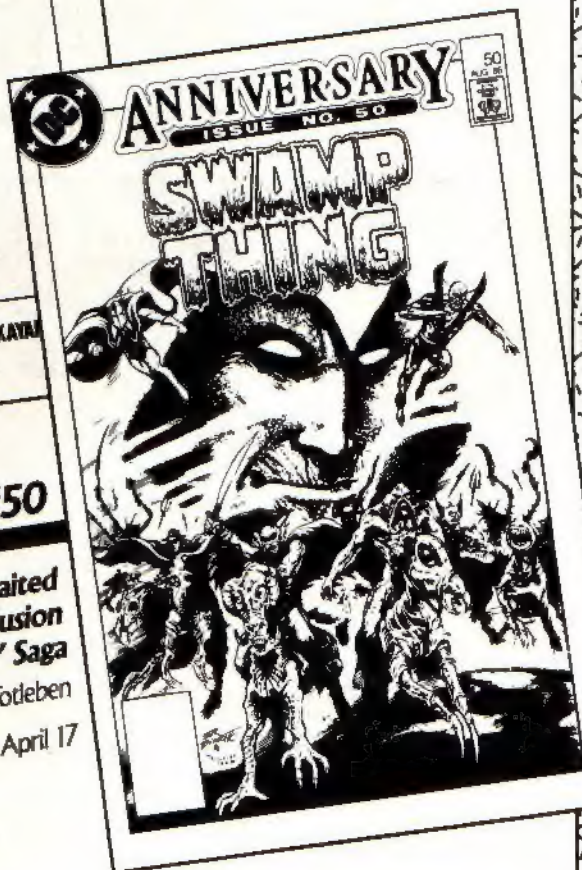
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